

Consideration of the dedication of the Dr. Sherman A. Minton, Jr. Nature Preserve, Floyd County

The proposed Nature Preserve is a 1301.23-acre property located 4 miles southwest of downtown New Albany, Floyd County. This nature preserve protects a significant portion of the Knobstone Hills landscape, which is a dramatically dissected complex of steep forested hills and mesic ravines. The Knobstone Hills are a conservation target of both DNR and The Nature Conservancy. The addition of this Nature Preserve brings the total acreage of protected land in this area to nearly 2000 acres.

This Nature Preserve consists dry, dry-mesic, and mesic upland forest, and several siltstone glades, which are small, relatively barren openings occurring on and around exposed siltstone.

Noteworthy animal species found in this Nature Preserve include: bobcat, gray bat, worm-eating warbler, cerulean warbler, and hooded warbler (all state endangered). Several state-threatened plants also are found here: Deam's beardtongue and Harvey's buttercup.

The preserve is named in honor of Dr. Sherman A. Minton, Jr., noted authority and expert who authored The Reptiles and Amphibians of Indiana. Dr. Minton was a medical doctor, who grew up in New Albany.

This tract is co-owned and managed by the Department of Natural Resources Division of Nature Preserves and Division of Fish and Wildlife.

The Division of Nature Preserves and the Division of Fish and Wildlife recommend dedication of this site as a State Nature Preserve.

Attached is Nature Preserves exhibit A.

Nature Preserves Exhibit A

Sherman Minton Nature Preserve

County: Floyd

USGS: Lanesville USGS Quad

Size: 1301 Acres

Ownership: Indiana Division of Nature Preserves

